

CLAIMS

1. A safety device for a motor vehicle comprising an inflatable curtain having an upper edge and a lower edge, the upper edge being adapted to be
5 mounted within the interior of a motor vehicle, a first portion of elongate, flexible element being attached to and extending from a point on said inflatable curtain, a second portion of elongate flexible element being attached to and extending from a point on said inflatable curtain, said first portion of elongate, flexible element incorporating a slide member adapted to slidably retain a
10 length of said second portion of elongate, flexible element.
2. The safety device according to Claim 1, wherein the first and second portions of elongate, flexible element are separate portions of a single elongate, flexible element.
- 15 3. The safety device according to Claims 1 or 2, wherein the first and second portions of elongate, flexible element are attached to said inflatable curtain at a common point.
- 20 4. The safety device according to Claims 1 to 3 wherein the first and second portions of elongate, flexible element are each attached to a point on said inflatable curtain which is in the region of said lower edge.
5. The safety device according to any preceding Claim, wherein the
25 member adapted to slidably retain a length of said second elongate, flexible element portion is in the form of a rigid ring.
6. The safety device according to any preceding Claim wherein one of the portions of elongate flexible element is elastic.

7. The safety device according to Claim 6 wherein both of the portions of elongate flexible element are elastic.

5 8. The safety device according to Claim 5 wherein both of the portions of elongate flexible element are inextensible.

9. The safety device according to any preceding Claim, wherein the point of attachment of one of the portions of elongate flexible element to the
10 inflatable curtain is in the form of an elastic connection.

10. The safety device according to Claim 9, wherein the point of attachment of both of the portions of elongate flexible element to the inflatable curtain is in the form of an elastic connection.

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11. A safety device according to any one of the preceding Claims wherein the device is mounted within a motor vehicle, the upper edge of the inflatable element being mounted to the vehicle, the first elongate flexible element portion engaging with a first guide element fixed to a point within the motor
20 vehicle, the second elongate flexible element being further attached to a fixed point within said motor vehicle, said fixed point being below said first guide element, the slide member slidably retaining said second portion of elongate flexible element, wherein;

25 upon inflation of said inflatable curtain, said lower edge moves to a position below said guide element and said portions of elongate flexible element thereby create tension along a line of said inflatable curtain, between said portions and a securing point for the inflatable curtain.

12. The safety device according to Claim 11, wherein the device further comprises a second guide element positioned within the motor vehicle at a point below said first guide element, said second guide element engaging with
5 said second portion of elongate flexible element between said slide member and inflatable curtain.